

The Morning Astorian.

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FIRST LAND CLASH OCCURS

HARD AT WORK FOR LARGER NAVY

Democrat Asserts That Retention of Philippines Creates Demand for Stronger Force on Sea

Precipitate Discussion and Minority Leader Williams Urges Adjournment.

IN HONOR OF WASHINGTON

Republicans Carry Day Arguing That First President Should Be Honored by Building Up the Navy.

Washington, Feb. 20.—This was field day in the house. The naval appropriation bill was under consideration and the discussion encompassed various topics, much of it revolving more or less around politics.

After Dayton (republican) of West Virginia, of the committee on naval affairs, had pleaded for a larger navy, Hitchcock (democrat), of Nebraska, declared that there was gross national extravagance in the annual appropriation bills. He asserted that the larger items in the army and navy supply bills went to trusts. Hardwick (democrat), of Georgia, precipitated a discussion on the Philippines question by declaring the retention of the islands was responsible for the demand for a larger navy.

Williams, the minority leader, sought to secure adjournment until Tuesday that proper respect might be paid to the memory of George Washington on Monday. Payne (republican) thought it would be more patriotic to celebrate the anniversary of the day building up the navy, and the house adjourned until Monday with the naval bill still pending.

LAST SPEECH FROM MORGAN.

Alabama Senator Announces He's Through With Canal.

Washington, Feb. 20.—Panama was the subject of three speeches in the

senate today, and was the only subject of general importance. Spooner completed a speech begun by him on Thursday, and Morgan and Money both made brief addresses. Morgan spoke in opposition to the treaty as usual and announced he would not be heard again on the treaty.

Money announced his intention of voting for the ratification of the canal treaty, but criticized the part taken by the United States in connection with the secession of Panama.

During his speech, Spooner engaged in a spirited colloquy with Tillman. He defended the president against the assumption that his position on the Panama question involved the right of the southern states to secede.

LOSES SENSE OF PAIN.

The Application of Hot Irons Serve to Convince Jury.

New York, Feb. 20.—A Brooklyn milk dealer has secured a verdict of \$5000 against the city after undergoing a remarkable test before the jury. Hot irons were applied to one arm and a leg and the flesh pierced with surgical instruments to prove that the plaintiff had suffered injury as claimed.

The milk man, while driving through the street, fell into an excavation which had been open several weeks. He claimed to have sustained chromatic neuritis of the nerves and muscles of the left side. In order to convince the jury, red hot irons were applied and sharp knives pierced deeply into the flesh repeatedly, but the milk man showed absolutely no evidence of pain and the verdict in his favor was immediately returned.

COURT GRANTS MOTION.

Denver, Feb. 20.—In the United States district court, Judge Riner has granted the motion of the defendants in the six-million dollar damage suit of the Strattons' Independence Company, limited, of England, against the estate of the late Winfield Scott Stratton, to strike from the files of the court the replication to the answer of the defendants and also granted judgment on the pleadings of the trustees and executors of the estate. It was held that the matter set up in the replication should have been included in the complaint. The English corporation sought to recover from the estate of the late mining millionaire, charging that prior to the sale of the Independence mine at Cripple Creek to the English purchasers, the property was "salted." The case will be appealed to the United States circuit court of appeals.

DRIFTING MINES RENDER HARBOR OF DALNY VERY DANGEROUS

Fearful Explosives Float About, and It Is Thought the Dangerous Condition Will Exist for Many Years to Come in Harbor.

Enormous Consignment of Artillery En Route from Russia—Repairs to Damaged Battleships Proceed Rapidly—Report That Japs Land at Corea Only—Report Says Russians Damaged Enemy.

St. Petersburg, Feb. 20.—A dispatch from Port Arthur today says the first land encounter occurred yesterday. A picket of Cossacks attacked a small detachment of Japanese troops on Korean territory. The Cossacks captured some Japanese prisoners, on whom they found maps and papers.

The collision was presumably between reconnoitering parties. A general engagement is not anticipated immediately.

A special Port Arthur dispatch says the Japanese fleet was observed February 18 cruising off that port.

Reports from northern Corea say the Koreans are showing a decidedly friendly attitude to the Russians.

The Manchuria railroad is conveying troops without difficulty to the various points of concentration.

Native reports say that the Chinese pirates, since the outbreak of hostilities, have been displaying such activity in eastern Asiatic waters as to almost paralyze the coasting trade.

Yinkow, Feb. 20.—A newspaper correspondent, who, by the special permission of General Pflug, was allowed to visit Port Arthur, states that repairs to the Russian fleet are proceeding. The cruiser Novik has been docked but conditions of the battleship Czarovitch and Revizan remain unchanged. Engineers say the Revizan will be floated in a few days.

Official reports indicate that in spite of the fact that no Japanese were reported as lost, the Russians did some damage.

Shippers are of the opinion that the harbor of Dalny will be unsafe for years to come on account of the stray mines from Yenisei, some of which are reported, by late merchantmen arriving at Port Arthur, as drifting in the open sea. Viceroy Alexieff is understood to be at Harbin. General Vinkoff is in command of the non-combatant forces at Harbin.

An enormous consignment of artillery is reported to be en route from Russia, and it is said without hesitation there were not over 125,000 troops in Manchuria and at Vladivostok when the war began.

Administration authorities, of Port Arthur, assert that the Japanese have landed in Corea only.

Loubet Will Visit Czar.

New York, Feb. 20.—It is reported, says a World dispatch from Paris, that President Loubet is making arrangements for an immediate visit to St. Petersburg to exchange courtesies with the czar, thereby paying back the visit of the czar to France. There is no confirmation of the rumor.

De Rosen Takes Passage.

New York, Feb. 20.—Baron de Rosen, Russian minister at Tokio, and his staff have sailed for home, says a Times dispatch from Shanghai. M. Pavloff, the Russian minister at Corta, who left Seoul a few days ago, remains at Shanghai awaiting instructions.

Will Increase Navy.

St. Petersburg, Feb. 20.—According to the terms of an imperial order just issued suspects under police surveillance are permitted to enter the army in the field as privates, after which the minister of the interior and minister of justice can order the withdrawal of police supervision over such persons. Another decree appoints a special

commission under the presidency of hereditary Grand Duke Michael Alexandrovitch, brother of the czar, to arrange for the most speedy construction of submarine boats, cruisers and other vessels, to meet the expense of which a public subscription has been started by the press.

Cassini Will Remain.

St. Petersburg, Feb. 20.—The report that Count Cassini, the Russian ambassador to Washington, is to be recalled is absolutely unwarranted. His services are highly esteemed and at the foreign office it was said his recall is not contemplated.

Japanese Maltreated.

Seoul, Feb. 20.—Japanese fugitives, who were maltreated at Port Arthur, arrived at Chemulpo yesterday, and the report of their ill treatment has created great excitement among the soldiers there.

Kuropatkin Transferred.

St. Petersburg, Feb. 21.—General Kuropatkin has been relieved of his functions as minister of war and has been appointed commander-in-chief of the Russian army in the far east.

To Succeed Fred Grant.

San Francisco, Feb. 20.—General Jesse M. Lee is here en route from the Philippines to succeed General Fred Grant in Texas. General Lee was under General Chaffee with the allied troops on their march to Peking during the Boxer troubles.

Heath Resigns as Secretary.

Washington, Feb. 20.—Postmaster-General Payne today received the resignation of Perry S. Heath as secretary of the republican national committee and announced that he would accept it immediately. The duties of the secretary will devolve on Elmer Dover, assistant secretary of the committee, until the full committee meets a few days before the national convention, when a secretary will be elected to succeed Heath.

Millionaire Under Arrest.

New York, Feb. 20.—John A. Benson, a San Francisco millionaire land dealer, was arrested here again today and arraigned before United States Commissioner Shields on the charge of conspiring to defraud the government of school lands in Oregon and California. Benson's examination was set for Thursday next. Bail was increased to \$20,000, which was furnished.

Diamond Polishers Strike.

New York, Feb. 20.—Diamond dealers here have been advised from Amsterdam and Antwerp that owing to the strike of 2000 polishers, stones are likely to be scarce and higher prices are expected. The strike is against an ultimatum of the employers prescribing a large number of apprentices which they are determined to enforce.

LONE BANDIT CAUGHT.

At Least So Officers of Baker City Think.

Baker City, Feb. 20.—The officers are satisfied that they have arrested the lone highwayman who has been operating in this city for several weeks past, but they are short of evidence to convict. White and his partner, Bassett, were overheard to plan a robbery of some kind, so one witness

testifies, but on particular saloon was mentioned.

The big gun used by the robber is not in evidence, and there is a wide difference of opinion regarding the gun, even if one should be found. Some of the victims of the hold-up say that it was a nickel-plated gun, while others insist that it was blue steel.

The mask which all feel sure they would recognize if they could see it again has not been found. The officers have been hunting diligently for more of the paraphernalia used by the hold-up, but they are unable to find the missing articles. Another man, D. M. Donaldson, has been arrested as a confederate. Donaldson had a key which fits the closet in the Mint saloon, where the robber locked his victims the night of the robbery. He also had a number of other keys of peculiar design. Among his effects were several signed checks drawn on the First National bank of this city and the First National bank of Sumpter, for sums ranging from \$155 to \$600. Donaldson was evidently preparing to work the bogus check game, which has been worked so successfully in the past on many people in this city.

MRS. GOULD ON SOCIAL LIFE.

Home Life Need Not Be Neglected For High Society.

New York, Feb. 20.—In an article written for the current number of a magazine dedicated to the interests of club women, Mrs. George J. Gould says:

"There is absolutely no reason why sharing in the pleasure of social life is incompatible with devotion in the domestic circle. It is as our children grow older that a woman's growth, mentally, must keep pace with that of the active young minds about her; she must broaden her social horizon, keep in touch with the world and absorb of events in the every day turmoil about her.

"About a fashionable woman's social functions there shines as fierce a light as beats about a throne and it is too generally believed that in order to have time for her toilets, etc., she considers a perfunctory good night kiss or a flying weekly visit to her nursery the sum total of her duty to her God given charges."

Miss Laura Fastabend is home from Jewell where she has just completed a three months' term of school.

WHEAT TAKES A SKYWARD COURSE

Cereal Reaches \$1.07, Third Instance of Kind Recorded in Past Twenty-Five Years.

CONFUSION REIGNS IN PIT

Liverpool Cables and Far East War Starts Bidding That Causes High Mark

Uproar and Pandemonium Creates Eventful Day in Chicago—Brokers Rush Wildly About.

Chicago, Feb. 20.—For the third time in a quarter of a century wheat for future delivery today reached \$1.07. The pit was the scene of uproar and pandemonium from the time the session opened until it closed. Brokers rushed frantically between telegraph counters and the pit with their hands full of orders, which in the excitement it was almost impossible to fill.

Strong Liverpool cables and Russo-Japanese war news started bidding in wheat for May delivery at \$1.04, 1 cent higher than last night's close.

At the outset there was little hesitation. Arrogance which has for months been monarch of the wheat pit, three millions of bushels on the market, but after a momentary calm the buying wave suddenly struck the pit and swept the brokers off their feet. The price, which had been forced down to \$1.02½, jumped by leaps and bounds to \$1.07. Liberal profit taking followed, and the market dropped back to \$1.05½, where it closed strong.

Mr. and Mrs. H. R. Beckwith and little son Harold returned to Portland last night after spending a few days with Mr. and Mrs. J. E. Higgins. Mrs. Beckwith and Mrs. Higgins are sisters.

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